



## **SPEAKERS**

### **COURTNEY ANDERSON**

Dr. Anderson is an attorney, author, international keynote speaker, preeminent corporate trainer, educator, entertainer and entrepreneur. Her global corporate training clients include Cirque du Soleil, Cabela's and Boeing. Her numerous media appearances include frequent expert guest analysis on FOX News, MSNBC and CNN International. She holds a Doctor of Jurisprudence from the University of Texas School of Law, a Master of Business Administration from Texas A&M University (Tarleton State), and a Bachelor of Arts Degree from the University of Texas at Austin. She is currently pursuing her Doctor of Philosophy in Business Organization and Management at Capella University. She has previously served as an adjunct professor in business law on the faculty of the University of Texas at Austin – McCombs School of Business and Huston-Tillotson College. She currently teaches as an adjunct professor in the MBA program with Ashington University and undergraduate courses with a division of the University of Phoenix. She currently owns her own law practice, corporate training firm, real estate investment firm, and record label.

### **SUSAN CARNAHAN**

*Voted Consummate Speaker of the Year 2000* by the top speaking bureaus in America, Susan Carnahan has become known for delivering humorous, content-driven messages that motivate people to make long-term, meaningful changes in their lives. Since 1987, Ms. Carnahan has challenged leaders and their employees across the United States and Canada to achieve higher levels of productivity by creating an environment that capitalizes on the creativity and richness that increased diversity offers.

Ms. Carnahan has appeared on CNN Live as an authority on gender communication, and has shared the stage with such professionals as General Colin Powell, Barbara Bush, Barbara Walters, and fighter pilot Scott O'Grady. Her recent books, audio tapes and video training programs include, *Motivational Leaders*, *What's Sex Got To Do With It*, *Lessons in Leadership*, *Leadership and Supervisory Skills for Women*, and *Self-Empowerment*.

### **AMY HUNTER**

Amy Hunter is the Inclusion Specialist at Edward Jones. In this role, she partners with recruiting and business areas across the firm to create and execute strategies to build a diverse and inclusive organization for associates.

Prior to Edward Jones, Amy worked for Monsanto as the University Relations Manager for the US. Prior to Monsanto she spent her career at Bank of America in St. Louis for

five years as the Executive Vice President of Diversity. She was responsible for creating and executing strategies for the Midwest Region.

Amy graduated from the University of Missouri with a Bachelor of Arts degree. She is pursuing her Masters degree from Webster University.

She has served on several boards and is a member of Alpha Kappa Alpha, Jack and Jill of St. Louis, The Missouri Business Leadership Network- the Governor's Council on Disabilities, The Hispanic Chamber of Commerce Corporate Advisory Board, The Minority Arts Council and several other community organizations.

## **JASON PARMAN**

Jason Parman directs the U.S. Office of Personnel Management's (OPM) Kansas City Services Section, which provides human resources management services to federal agency clients in Missouri, Iowa, Kansas and Nebraska.

Jason previously served OPM as a recruiting specialist and HR consultant. Prior to his federal service, he worked for Tracker Marine, the world's largest manufacturer of fishing boats, in its corporate HR department.

Jason received his undergraduate degree in psychology from Southwest Missouri State University, and earned his Master of Business Administration degree from Touro University. He is also a graduate of the USDA Executive Potential Program. He serves on the Executive Committees of the Kansas City and St. Louis Federal Executive Boards, and is a member of the International Public Management Association for Human Resources and the Phi Delta Theta Educational Foundation. He has spoken around the country on such topics as effective management techniques, federal recruiting, veterans' preference and federal hiring flexibilities. Jason is featured in OPM's recent DVD release of "What Veterans Need to Know about Veterans' Preference", which has resulted in the distribution of over 100,000 DVDs (but not a single autograph request).

Jason has been recognized for his efforts with a number of awards, including the Special Act Award, the Sustained Superior Performance Award, the HR Champion Award for HR consulting services, and the 2000 Director's Award of Excellence—OPM's highest honor. He is also a member of *Ingram's* magazine's "40 Under Forty" Class of 2005, which honors Kansas City's most effective leaders in business and government under the age of 40.

## **JANE RUND**

Ms. Rund has been on staff with the Civil Division, U. S. Attorney's Office for the Eastern District of Missouri since March of 1997. She serves with the defensive section of the Civil Division, which handle cases for over 85 client agencies. Her primary assignments are in employment discrimination, immigration, and social security.

For a number of years, Ms Rund worked within the City of St. Louis political system for Mayor Schoemehl, first as a neighborhood liaison, and later as an executive assistant. She also served as Executive Director of the Southwest Garden Neighborhood, starting the first housing corporation and apartment owners' association.

A licensed real estate agent, Ms. Rund worked for a real estate consulting firm, which specialized in commercial leasing and housing developments for non-profit organizations. She held that job full-time while attending Saint Louis University Law School at night from 1992 to 1996. After receiving her law degree from SLU in 1996, she became licensed in both Missouri and Illinois. Ms. Rund is a summa cum laude graduate of Webster University in 1987, with a major in political science and a minor in both history and business.

#### **KIKI THEODOROPOULOS**

Kiki Theodoropoulos is a Senior Analyst at the U.S. Government Accountability Office in the Strategic Issues Team. Ms. Theodoropoulos has been with GAO for 14 years and has contributed to numerous GAO reports, guides, and congressional testimonies on strategic human capital management. Her most recent reports have discussed the issues of whistleblower protection, temporary federal employment, equal employment opportunity, and diversity management.

She graduated Magna cum Laude with a B.A in Art, and holds a Masters of Fine Arts in English Language and Literature.

#### **LLOYD J. VASQUEZ, JR.**

At present Judge Vasquez is serving a six-month detail as Acting Chief Administrative Judge, managing and overseeing all aspects of individual and class federal employment discrimination matters within the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission's St. Louis District Office. Judge Vasquez is a frequent lecturer on the subject of employment discrimination including instructing at the Commission's EEO Counselor Training programs, Technical Assistance Programs Seminars and National Judicial Conferences.

Judge Vasquez practiced extensively as a trial attorney in the area of civil rights and employment discrimination, litigating numerous complex cases and chairing many bench and jury trials over a fifteen-year period prior to joining the Commission. He served as Senior Trial Attorney in the Commission's St. Louis District Office immediately prior to his appointment as an Administrative Judge.

Judge Vasquez received his B.A. magna cum laude from the University of Missouri-St. Louis in 1974 and the M.H.A. with honors in 1978 from the Washington University in St. Louis. He is a 1983 graduate of St. Louis University School of Law where he received the Juris Doctorate degree magna cum laude and was elected to the Order of the Coif. He served as a staff member and, subsequently, Note and Comment Editor of the Saint Louis University Law Journal and was the recipient of American Journal 2d Awards in Constitutional Law, Employment Relations and Evidence.

## **THE DISABILITY PROJECT PERFORMERS AND STAFF**

### **TOM ALLEN**

Tom has epilepsy and is blind in one eye. He has attained his Master's Degree. Although not currently employed full-time, Tom tutors students in math. In his spare time, Tom unleashes his creative side. Aside from performing, he is a talented painter; one of his paintings was recently on exhibit at the St. Louis Artists' Guild. He is also musically gifted and plays several instruments.

### **LORRIE BIELICKE**

Lorrie worked in special education for 22 years. For 15 of those years, she helped plan programs for kids with special needs. Then, in November of 1997, she became professionally enriched when diagnosed with Multiple Sclerosis. Her great uncle had MS too. He was an inspiration and a great role model when Lorrie was diagnosed and she wishes that he were still here. She has realized that he showed her everything she needed to know. When her disability allows it, Lorrie volunteers helping children who struggle in school.

### **BARB HAMILTON**

Barb is a widow with three children and three (soon to be four) grandchildren. Barb works fulltime at the St. Louis Convention and Visitors' Commission. She has been involved in the theatre since high school. She attended Fontbonne College where she majored in English and minored in Drama. In her spare time, Barb enjoys the theatre, dancing, traveling and gardening. Barb has been a member of The DisAbility Project for five years, since January 2001.

### **ANA JENNINGS**

Although not currently employed, Ana has worked full time in the field of rehabilitation and disability rights for more than 15 years. She has a Master's degree in Education, with an emphasis in Vocational Rehabilitation. Ana has been happily married for 11 years and lives with her husband in their own home in Kirkwood, MO. She likes trying out different cultural cuisines and her pet peeve is rude people. Ana has a spinal cord injury.

### **BRYAN D. JONES**

Bryan was born with Ehlers-Danlos Syndrome, which is a genetic disorder of the connective tissues in the arms and legs. He can't support weight above 30lbs. Bryan has been with the group since November 2003 and has enjoyed it ever since.

### **ANDREW LACKEY**

Andrew is an original performing member of the DisAbility Project and has been involved since 1998. He is a recent graduate of Southern Illinois University at Edwardsville, with a double major in Theatre and Political Science. He is also a graduate of the National Theater Workshop of the Handicapped and the American Conservatory Theater Summer Training Congress in San Francisco. Andrew was a regional finalist in the Kennedy Center American College Theatre Festival. Currently, he is assistant directing "The History of Bowling" by Mike Ervin, which is being produced by HotCity Theatre in August, where he is also a Literary Associate. Andrew's play, "King of the Secret Thunderbox Society" has been commissioned by the Mark Taper Forum in Los Angeles and has had staged readings at Hothouse Theatre Company in St. Louis and Victory

Gardens Theater in Chicago. He can most recently be seen performing thought-provoking theatre for the Anti-Defamation League's World of Difference Institute. Andrew has Cerebral Palsy.

#### **ASHLEY NANNEY**

Ashley is an Assistant Director for St. Louis Arc, as well as an Artistic Associate with That Uppity Theatre Company. She started performing at the age of two and enjoys many facets of theatre including performance, stage management, direction, and choreography. Ashley studied theatre at William Woods College prior to majoring in Psychology and Sociology at Maryville University. Originally from Charlotte, North Carolina, as an improvisational actress, Ashley toured with Focus Theatre Company, a company that addresses adolescent issues. Ashley was a member of the core organizing team for Peace Out!, where she also directed a piece with the DisAbility Project.

#### **CATHERINE NEU**

Casie is a Masters in Social Work student at the George Warren Brown School of Social Work at Washington University. She is interning with That Uppity Theatre Company for the summer and fall semesters. Currently, she works at Epworth Children and Family Services.

#### **SARAH SHIMCHICK**

Sarah received her B.A. in Psychology from Smith College and recently completed her MSW from Washington University in St. Louis. Sarah believes in the use of theatre as an educational tool and as a therapeutic intervention, with a specific focus on humor as an awareness-raising mechanism. Sarah was an intern with That Uppity Theatre Company for one year before being hired as an Administrative Assistant and Artistic Associate. Sarah has worked closely with Joan on a number of projects including: the DisAbility Project, Peace Out!, As American as Apple Pie, and Diverse Works, among others.

#### **LAROY SMITH**

LaRoy graduated Webster University in 1992 with a major in Media Communications. He was diagnosed with Multiple Sclerosis 19 years ago, but has remained active in the St. Louis theatre community. He has performed for over 25 years with such companies as Theater Unlimited through the Jewish Community Center Association, and has been a performer with The DisAbility Project for five years. You may recognize him from a Kentucky Fried Chicken commercial, airing October 2004.

#### **MARCI ZIMMERMAN**

Marci is 25 years old and has a service dog named Goldie (named after Goldie Hawn). Marci and Goldie have been together since October 1999. If there is anyplace that Goldie cannot go, then Marci does not go either. Marci is attending Meramec Community College and getting her Associate's Degree. Due to her Cerebral Palsy, Marci drives a specialized van with the help from United Access. She has been driving since the fall of 1998. She is moving into her own condo next summer with another DisAbility Project member. Marci is volunteering this summer with Life Skills and loving every minute.

**JOAN LIPKIN**

**CO-FOUNDER, DISABILITY PROJECT**

Joan is the Founder and Producing Artistic Director of That Uppity Theatre Company in St. Louis, Missouri. A strong proponent of collaboration, Joan specializes in creating works with socially relevant themes and underserved populations. Her company has received numerous commissions from various organizations. She has worked extensively with people with disability, women with cancer, GLBTQ youth, and gay men. A playwright, director, activist, educator, and social critic, her award-winning work has been published and produced throughout the United States, Canada, Great Britain, Ireland, Europe, Australia, and Asia. She has been featured on network television, National Public Radio, the BBC and the Associated Press and in a number of theatrical journals.